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**Submitted by: Melina Watts**

**(comments are verbatim with email address information removed)**

My name is Melina Watts and I am the Santa Monica Mountains Watersheds Coordinator at the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains.

In 1995, the Malibu Creek Watershed Council, representing cities, agencies, non-profits, scientists, teachers and concerned citizens in the North Santa Monica Bay Region developed an historic 44 Action Item list via consensus that has determined our environmental and water quality goals for the last fifteen years. Only one item was officially added to that list: reducing the impacts of Climate Change.

As part of my work to implement our watershed goals, I attended the recent talk by Dr. Al Carnesdale who worked with the National Academy of Science to facilitate the writing of their report "America's Climate Choices." The one policy recommendation from the report that really leapt out at me was item number 6: "Response efforts currently being advanced by state and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector are significant, but not likely to yield progress comparable to what could be achieved with strong national policies and leadership."

So, based upon the work of the committee of the National Academy of Science:

1. Where do you see the kind of strong national policies and leadership this issue requires?
2. Is there any work being done to implement legislation similar to AB 32 in Congress or the Senate?
3. Can the United States of America sign the Kyoto Agreement retroactively?
4. Apart from Vice President Al Gore, who do you see as a powerful and charismatic leader who is willing and able to take this on?